

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-07 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 NSC-07

DRC-01 /113 W

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P R 111459Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0002

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 8069

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS PFOR ET US PINT

SUBJECT: CMAAG'S MEETING WITH NEW CHIEF OF STAFF

1. LT. GEN. AMAN ANDOM, NEW C/S IEMF RECEIVED BG YOW, CMAAG, FOR INITIAL WORKING SESSION JULY 10. CMAAG WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS SERVICE SECTION CHIEFS AND C/S ALSO HAD SENIOR IEMF STAFFERS PRESENT.

2. AT AMAN'S SUGGESTION MEETING, ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED AS INITIAL CALL BY CMAAG ON NEW C/S, WAS RECAST AS SUBSTANTIVE SESSION ON PENDING ISSUES. IT LASTED 90 MINUTES AND ALL MAJOR MILITARY SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO PRINCIPALS WERE DISCUSSED.

3. GEN. AMAN WAS TOTALLY RECEPTIVE IN COURSE THIS GIVE AND TAKE AND AT PAINS INDICATE HIS HIGH HOPES FOR CONTINUED CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN USMMAG AND IEMF.

4. OF PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE, DURING THE MEETING, GEN. AMAN
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CHOSE AT ONE POINT TO RELAY TO CMAAG THE "DESIRES" OF THE

"MILITARY COMMITTEE" (PRESUMABLY THE AFCC) THAT THE USG PROVIDE THE REQUIRED ASSISTANCE FOR THE IEMF.

5. MEETING GIVE EXTENSIVE PUBLICITY IN ETHIOPIAN MEDIA JULY 10/11. MEDIA PLAYED UP ITS LENGTH, DWELLED ON PRESENCE DEPUTY C.O. AND SENIOR OFFICERS IEAF BUT CORRECTLY CHARACTERIZED SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION AS "COOPERATION IN MILITARY FIELD BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES."

6. AS CONSEQUENCE THIS PUBLICITY , (AND BBC SPECULATION SOURCED TO REUTERS SAID HAVE BEEN AIRED ALLEGEDLY POSSIBLE IMMINENT USG DECISION TO SUPPLY IEAF WITH AIRCRAFT CAPABLE COUNTERING MIG 21'S RECENTLY SEEN IN SOMALIA), LOCAL AFPREP RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM PARIS DO SPECULATIVE PIECE ON CURRENT STATUS US-ETHIOPIAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE. THIS LIKELY HIT WIRES TODAY.

7. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST INSTANCE OF MINISTER OFFICIALLY RELAYING MESSAGE FROM AFCC TO REPRESENTATIVE USG AGENCY. WE DO NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT AFCC ORCHESTRATING LOCAL PUBLICITY/ SPECULATION FOR ITS OWN ENDS. WE INTEND SEE TO IT THAT, IN CURRENT CONTEXT, ANY RESPONSES WE MAY FEEL CALLED UPON TO MAKE TO SUCH MESSAGES ARE MADE EXCLUSIVELY TO APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF IEG.

WYMAN

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